

# Delaware CEDS

*a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy  
for the State of Delaware*



Delaware CEDS – a program of the Delaware Economic Development Office  
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## KENT REGION COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

September 21, 2005

7:00–9:00 p.m.

Delaware Technical & Community College, Dover

**Committee Members Present:** Mark Pugh (co-chair), Debra Singletary (co-chair), Robert McLeod, Sarah Keifer, Dennis Coker, Ed Perez, Mike Coverdale, Hazell Reed, John Austin, Dan Wolfensberger

**CEDS Support Staff:** David Edgell (facilitator), Troy Mix, Simon Condliffe, Bernard Dworsky, Lisa McIlvaine, Cori Gaul

**DEDO Staff Present:** Karley Barnes

**Number of Public Participants Present:** 2

Committee co-chairs Mark Pugh and Debra Singletary opened the meeting by introducing members of the committee and public and DEDO and IPA Staff. Following these introductions, Troy Mix (IPA Staff) provided a brief overview of the State and Regional Committees' roles in the CEDS process, and the format and schedule of the process.

Simon Condliffe (University of Delaware Center for Applied Demography and Survey Research) continued with a brief economic analysis of the state of Delaware, paying particular attention to Kent County. The presentation included economic and demographic summaries of the County. Trends in farm employment were of particular interest to the Committee, and committee discussion led to general agreement regarding a desire for increased agricultural representation on the Committee.

Facilitator David Edgell (Office of State Planning Coordination) then led the Committee and public in performing a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis of the county. Those participating were divided into groups of 2–3 members. They spent approximately five minutes at each of five flipchart stations brainstorming the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats as well as the larger-scale trends they saw present in the economic development of Kent County. Following this exercise, the groups were asked to identify the one or two most important items at the station where they completed the exercise.

The Committee co-chairs then facilitated a discussion among the committee members and members of the public regarding a variety of economic-development issues. Troy Mix followed this discussion with a reminder that the next meeting of the Kent County CEDS Committee is scheduled for 7:00–9:00 p.m. on October 5 at the Smyrna Opera House.